

# for authors, by authors



## SSA this is who we are:

- a **cooperative society of authors** in the audio-visual and dramatic works sector: Screenwriters, directors, stage writers, composers, choreographers
- our Board of Directors is composed of authors
- our administrative staff is at your service

for the protection of authors' rights, in the spirit of solidarity, transparency, efficiency and working as a non-profit making organisation.

## Our role

Authors or rights owners entrust SSA with the administration of their rights. We manage their interests collectively, mainly by negotiating tariffs for the usage of their works.

SSA collects and distributes the rights by safeguarding the relationship between authors and the various work users such as:

- public and private broadcasters (TV and radio)
- event and stage organisers (professional or amateur theatres)
- producers
- publishers of audio-visual and audio recordings
- digital platforms

We therefore promote authorised work access while making sure that the authors receive their fair payment.

Our duties also include the mandatory collective management of rights.

The authors' rights of SSA members are represented abroad on the basis of agreements with sister societies. Based on the principle of reciprocity, SSA therefore also represents the rights of other societies' members in Switzerland.

SSA also performs social and cultural activities.

On a more general note, we engage in initiatives intended to improve working conditions for authors.

## Advantages of being a full member of our cooperative

- Rights administration
- Legal advice
- Right to vote at our annual general meeting
- Manuscript deposits
- Regular information
- Solidarity funds
- Retirement capital
- No membership fees

### CULTURAL + SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

SSA deducts a percentage from the rights collected for the usage of works to support its cultural and social funds.

- The cultural fund launch a number of support programmes for the benefit of the entire repertoire scope administered by SSA: benefits, scholarships and prizes, often in partnership with other organisations.
- Our multi-function room with high-quality technical equipment is at the disposal of those active in the cultural sector free of charge
- Our social activities include two aspects: we have our pension fund, or «fonds de secours», which helps with the retirement provision for our author members, and we have a solidarity fund which helps members who are going through a difficult financial patch.

### MANDATORY COLLECTIVE MANAGEMENT

Pursuant to the Copyright Act, certain exploitations must be managed collectively by a collecting society, such as cable retransmission of radio and TV programmes, private copying levies or uses of protected works for educational purposes. These are areas where the legislator presumes that it is impossible for authors to track the usage of their works themselves and negotiate the respective remuneration directly.

SSA has an authorisation from the Federal Institute for Intellectual Property (IPI) in Switzerland for managing the rights of dramatical, dramatico-musical and choreographic works. The IPI assures its supervision and approves its distribution regulations.

